
By: **Delegates Cardin and Morhaim**
Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2003
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Approved Gear and Equipment - Youth Baseball**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring individuals under a certain age to use certain approved
4 gear and equipment in order to participate in certain baseball games or
5 practices; phasing in the requirements over a certain number of years; requiring
6 the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to adopt certain regulations;
7 providing for the issuance of a warning; defining certain terms; and generally
8 relating to the use of approved gear and equipment by individuals participating
9 in youth baseball.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Health - General
12 Section 24-1101 to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 11. Approved Gear and
13 Equipment for Youth Baseball"
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2000 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article - Health - General**

19 SUBTITLE 11. APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT FOR YOUTH BASEBALL.

20 24-1101.

21 (A) (1) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
22 INDICATED.

23 (2) "YOUTH BASEBALL" MEANS ANY BASEBALL GAME OR PRACTICE:

24 (I) PLAYED BY INDIVIDUALS UNDER THE AGE OF 17;

25 (II) SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT; AND

26 (III) COORDINATED BY A LEAGUE OR ORGANIZATION.

1 (3) "APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT" MEANS PROTECTIVE EYE, HEAD,
2 AND BODY GEAR AND ALL OTHER BASEBALL EQUIPMENT THAT MEETS OR EXCEEDS
3 THE STANDARDS SET BY:

4 (I) THE AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE;

5 (II) THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF TESTING AND MEASUREMENT;

6 (III) THE SNELL MEMORIAL FOUNDATION;

7 (IV) THE NATIONAL OPERATING COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS FOR
8 ATHLETIC EQUIPMENT;

9 (V) THE PROTECTIVE EYEWEAR CERTIFICATION COUNCIL; OR

10 (VI) ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION THAT THE SECRETARY
11 DESIGNATES FOR THIS PURPOSE.

12 (B) THE SECRETARY SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS CONSISTENT WITH THIS
13 SUBTITLE THAT DESIGNATE THE TYPES OF APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT THAT
14 ARE APPROPRIATE FOR EACH BASEBALL POSITION.

15 (C) (1) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004, EACH INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 9
16 YEARS ON A YOUTH BASEBALL TEAM SHALL USE APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT
17 IN ORDER FOR THE TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN A BASEBALL GAME OR PRACTICE.

18 (2) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2005, EACH INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 12
19 YEARS ON A YOUTH BASEBALL TEAM SHALL USE APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT
20 IN ORDER FOR THE TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN A BASEBALL GAME OR PRACTICE.

21 (3) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006, EACH INDIVIDUAL UNDER THE AGE OF 15
22 YEARS ON A YOUTH BASEBALL TEAM SHALL USE APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT
23 IN ORDER FOR THE TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN A BASEBALL GAME OR PRACTICE.

24 (4) FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, AN
25 INDIVIDUAL ON A YOUTH BASEBALL TEAM SHALL USE APPROVED GEAR AND
26 EQUIPMENT IN ORDER FOR THE TEAM TO PARTICIPATE IN A BASEBALL GAME OR
27 PRACTICE.

28 (D) THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE ENFORCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF A WARNING
29 THAT INFORMS THE OFFENDER OF THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE AND
30 PROVIDES EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS ABOUT APPROVED GEAR AND EQUIPMENT
31 USE.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
33 effect July 1, 2003.